

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The Digestive Tract of Cephalopods

Almost exactly four years ago the COST Action FA1301 ‘CephslnAction’ held a workshop on [The Digestive Tract of Cephalopods: the interface between ecology and physiology](#) in Cascais (Portugal). The workshop had more than 20 oral presentations and its outcome resulted in the publication of a Research Topic of Frontiers in Invertebrate Physiology with 17 papers involving over 70 authors. The Frontiers in Physiology Research Topic is now also available as a 224 page [ebook](#), and has had over 51,000 views.

In view of the continued interest in the topic, the relatively limited research on the physiology of the digestive system of cephalopods, and the need to grow research in this area, we have decided to hold another meeting on the **Cephalopod Digestive Tract**. It will take place on **April 15-16, 2020** (Napoli, Italy) with the main aim of *i.* creating opportunities for networking to facilitate possible funding applications, *ii.* reviewing progress made over the last five years in this area which has relevance to evolutionary biology of marine organisms, cephalopod aquaculture and laboratory welfare.

This two-day event is a *Special Satellite Scientific Event* to the main meeting ‘**Biology and Life History of Cephalopods**’ Napoli-2020. It is partnered by another one (*Special Satellite Scientific Event #1* “Early-life stages of cephalopods: Promoting a revised multi-approach identification key meeting”).

The two full days format will provide adequate time to cover a breadth of topics of current interest, to give early career researchers an opportunity to present their work, and to allow time for detailed discussion about future opportunities.

It is planned to cover different aspects of the study of the digestive system of cephalopods including:

- Feeding strategies;
- Novel insights into the morphology and physiological control;
- Omics: taking advantage of the availability of genomic resources;
- Aquaculture;
- Microbiome and immune response;
- Environmental impacts of digestive tract functionality, e.g., microplastics, pH, parasites and poisons;
- Novel techniques and lessons from other aquatic species;
- Digestive tract functionality as a welfare indicator.

The *Special Satellite Scientific Event #2* “The Digestive Tract of Cephalopods” will also be the occasion for a discussion on research priorities, possibilities of coordinating a research agenda, and exploring the options to build a research consortium aimed at facilitating grant applications.

We will ensure that there is plenty of time in the program for “free presentations” (subject to selection) to ensure the meeting reflects the diversity of current research both within and outside the main themes.

A call for abstracts will be launched by the end of November 2019, at the latest. Only oral presentations will be considered for the *Special Satellite Scientific Event #2* (20 min or 10 min, long and short presentations respectively - followed by discussion); no posters presentations will be

included. We will publish the program with confirmed speakers by the end of January 2020 to enable you to make early reservations.

Registration is required and is estimated to be 75 Euro (at early registration rate due 31st December 2019). Registration and other logistics information will be shortly available at the main CephRes webpage for the meeting series.

The language of the entire meeting will be English, and no translation facilities are available.

To help us to facilitate the arrangements of this scientific event your responses to a short questionnaire available at the link (<https://forms.gle/kNF1d9G1rVpFH9by9>) will be very helpful. Please reply by December 9th, 2019.

We look forward to seeing you in Naples in April 2020.

Best wishes,

Paul Andrews